

Chances Are . . . MRS Is the Right Place

Welcome to Michigan Rehabilitation Services, often just called MRS. If you, or someone you know, has a disability and wants to find a meaningful career, MRS is here to help. Each year, more than 7,000 Michigan citizens with disabilities are assisted into jobs through MRS services.

Who Should Go to MRS?

MRS works with people with a wide range of disabilities. Some examples are:

- Amputation ★ Kidney disease
- Back disability ★ Learning disability
- Brain injury ★ Mental illness
- Cancer ★ Mental retardation
- Cerebral palsy ★ Multiple sclerosis
- Diabetes ★ Muscular dystrophy
- Epilepsy ★ Paraplegia
- Hearing loss ★ Quadriplegia
- Heart disease ★ Substance abuse

A person with a disability may be eligible for MRS services if the disability causes problems in preparing for, finding, or keeping a job. The individual must also require MRS services in order to work.

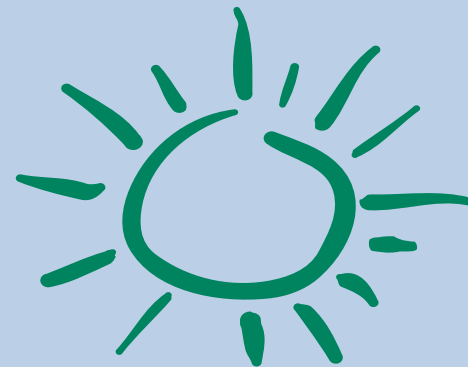
Persons who are legally blind are served by the Michigan Commission for the Blind.

How Does MRS Work?

Each customer who comes to MRS for services can choose to work with a rehabilitation counselor. Together, they follow these four steps:

1 Decide on an employment goal

The customer selects a job goal that matches his or her aptitudes and interests. The counselor may help to obtain the necessary information so the customer can make the best choices. Sometimes this will require gathering information from other people or programs, or getting assessments. Assessments may include medical exams, vocational testing, work evaluations, and job try-outs.



2 Develop a plan

The customer can choose to work with a counselor to develop a plan for employment. The plan will clearly identify the services that will be needed. It will also state who will provide the services and how to determine if they are beneficial. Some services will be provided directly by the counselor or other MRS staff. Other services may be purchased or provided by other agencies.

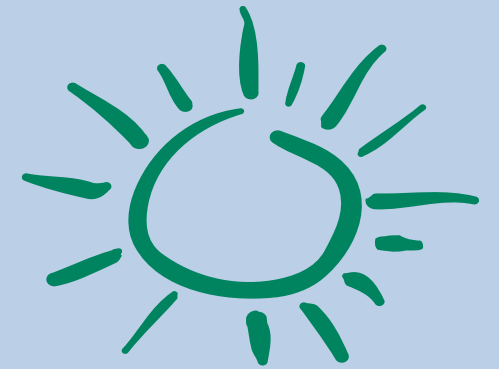
3 Follow the plan

The customer receives the services outlined in his or her plan. See some examples of services below. The plan is reviewed annually and can be changed as necessary.

- ★ Job-seeking skills training
- ★ Job placement assistance
- ★ Accommodations/assistive technology
- ★ Job coaches
- ★ Tools, equipment, and licenses
- ★ Job training
- ★ Prostheses and other medical services
- ★ Support services such as interpreters, readers, and transportation

4 Reach the goal

The counselor, and sometimes other MRS staff, work with the customer to reach the final goal — finding the right job. Once the customer is on the job, the counselor follows up for at least 90 days to make sure both the employer and new employee are satisfied. Sometimes additional services are needed. When this happens, MRS can begin working with the customer again to make sure he or she is able to stay on the job.



Who Pays for Services?

MRS provides the following services free of charge:

- ✱ Disability assessments
- ✱ Vocational evaluations
- ✱ Counseling
- ✱ Job placement services
- ✱ Job follow-up services

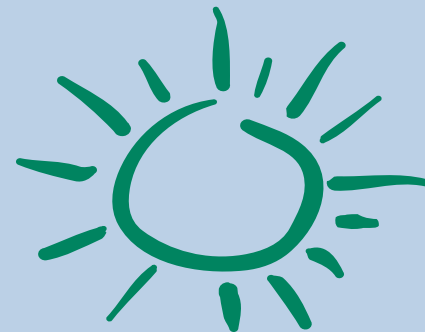
Other services are purchased from public and private agencies in the community. If financially able, customers are asked to help pay for part of these services.



How Is a Referral to MRS Made?

Any person with a disability who is interested in receiving job rehabilitation services may call the nearest MRS office. Referrals also may be made by family members, hospitals, school counselors, mental health professionals, social workers, churches, and other community agencies.

For a listing of the MRS office locations across the state, call toll free 1-800-605-6722 (voice) or 1-888-605-6722 (TTY).



Michigan Rehabilitation Services is a division of the Michigan Department of Career Development.

Visit MRS on the Internet at
www.state.mi.us/career

The Michigan Department of Career Development does not discriminate on the basis of race, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of services.

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